

United States Attorney's Office District of Columbia

Ronald C. Machen Jr. United States Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Former employee of technology firms sentenced in OCTO conspiracy

WASHINGTON - Sarosh Mir, a former employee of two technology firms which did business with the District of Columbia's Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), was sentenced today to a 24-month period of probation and was ordered to perform 80 hours of community service and to pay over \$124,000 in restitution to the District of Columbia government, announced U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr., Shawn Henry, Jr., Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Washington Field Office, and Charles Willoughby, Inspector General for the District of Columbia.

Mir, 44, of Herndon, Virginia, previously pled guilty before U.S. District Court Judge Henry H. Kennedy, Jr. to a one-count information that charged him with Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud. Mir was previously employed by Advanced Integrated Technology Corporation (AITC), a District of Columbia technology firm owned by Sushil Bansal, who has also been charged in the scheme. Mir admitted that he then incorporated a second company at Bansal's behest, Innovative IT Solutions, Inc. (IITSI) and was the nominal president, although it was actually Bansal's company. Both AITC and IITS were awarded contracts with OCTO.

During his guilty plea, Mir admitted to participating in a scheme to defraud the District of Columbia government by submitting false and fraudulent time sheets and invoices that reflected inflated work hours for some employees, as well as submitting false and fraudulent time sheets and invoices for "ghost employees" – individuals who were not employed by AITC or IITS and who did no work for those companies or for OCTO. Mir admitted that he supplied the name of a friend to be used in the ghost employee scheme. The monetary loss to the District of Columbia government associated with Mir's involvement in the scheme was over \$124,000. Mir was found to be a minimal participant in the conspiracy and did not personally profit from the illegal activity in which he participated.

In announcing today's sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen, FBI Assistant Director in Charge Henry, and D.C. Inspector General Willoughby commended the outstanding investigative work of Special Agents Mary Gleason, Joseph Gordon, Julie Lenkart and Andy Sekela of the FBI and Special Agent Teddy Clark and the late Special Agent Lloyd Hodge of

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the D.C. Office of the Inspector General. They also acknowledged the efforts of U.S. Attorney's Office paralegals Diane Hayes, Tasha Harris and Maggie McCabe, former legal assistant Lisa Robinson, as well as Assistant U.S. Attorneys Thomas Hibarger and Glenn Leon, who prosecuted this case.

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